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REYNOLDS HISTORICAL GENEALOGY COLLECTION

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A HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF

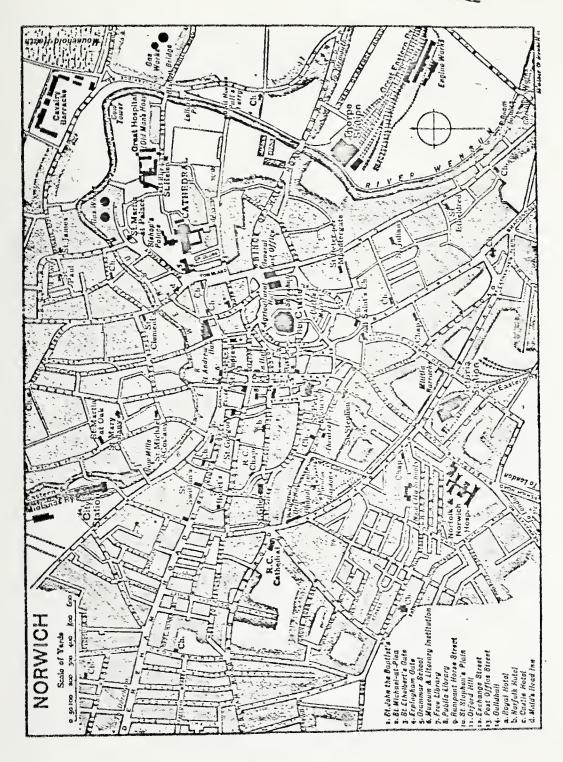
NICHOLAS BUSBY

THE EMIGRANT

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BUSBY

GRANDFATHER AND FATHER OF NICHOLAS BUSBY, THE EMIGRANT

John Bushy, grandfather of the emigrant Nicholas, lived for a time in Essex County, at a place called Great Oakley. The time of his removal to Norfolk County is uncertain. When he made his will in 1568 he had become a resident of Acle in the county of Norfolk. He was a mercer by trade. No wife is mentioned in his will, nor has her name been learned. Abstract of the will of John Busby, as obtained in England, by J. Gardner Bartlett, genealogist, reads, "The will of John Busbye, late of Much Okeley [Great Oakley], co. Essex, now of Acley [Acle], co. Norfolk, mercer, dated 22 Sept. 1568. To Nicholas Busby, now my eldest son, four of my best silver pots. To Agnes my daughter £3-6-8, and a silver spoon. To my daughter Jone Busby £3-6-8 and a pair of silver laches, when 21 years of age; if she die before that time, remainder to my sone Edward Busbye. To my son Edward Busby all residue of my goods, he to be sole executor. My nephew John Godfrey to be supervisor. Witnesses, Edmund Cooke, John Gouldurg, John Broughton and John Rochester the writer. Proved 27 Mar. 1570 by the executor." (Archdeaconry of Norwich, vol. 15, fol. 1.)

The children of John Busby as determined by the above will

were:

Agnes, born, probably, about 1543-5

(son), probably, who died before father made will; and born before Nicholas

Nicholas, born, probably, about 1546-8; by 1568 designated, "now my eldest son." (Of whom further)

Edward, born, probably, about 1548-9; proved will of his father, 1570

Jone, born, probably, about 1552; under 21 years at date of father's will, 1568

NICHOLAS BUSBY, son of John Busby and father of Nicholas Busby, the emigrant, was born about 1546-8, presumably in the

county of Essex, England. That he, too, was of Norfolk County, when his father made will is likely. He evidently married twice. The name of his first wife, the mother of his children, is not known. His wife mentioned in his will, 1615, was "Susann my late wife." Apparently the widow Susan Busby, of Langley, Norfolk Co., when she made her will, 1619, was the widow of Nicholas. Claxton, where Nicholas was living at the time of will, and Langley, residence of widow Susan, four years later, are adjoining parishes. Susan made no mention of Busby children in her will. Her children by her first husband Thomas Plumbe were remembered. Nicholas Busby died between the date of his will, 17 June 1615, and the date of its registration, early in March 1617/8. Abstracts of the wills of Nicholas Busby and of widow Susan Busby are as follows:—

"In the name of God, Amen, I Nycholas Busby of Claxton, co. Norfolk, being of perfect memorie make this my last will and testament as followeth, first, I give unto Nycholas my youngest sonne one silver spoone; unto John my eldest sonne one black stuffe dublett with a payre of stockings, a payre of shooes, and a hatt. All the rest of my goods whatsoever I give and bequeath unto Susann my late [sic] wife. In wittnes wherof I have sett my hand this 17th of June 1615. Witnessed by us, Robert Crook, Edmond Heard, Robert Peachie, Edmund Heard [mark]. [No probate is given, but registered between wills proved 4 Mar. 1617/8 and 7 Mar. 1617/8.] (Con-

sistory of Norwich, vol. Trotter, fol. 14.)

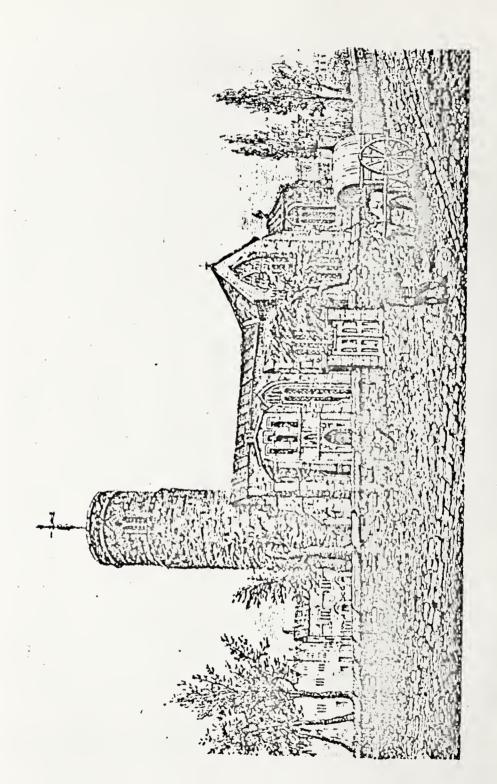
"The will of Susan Busby of Langley, co. Norfolk, widow, dated 19 July 1619. My goods to my three sons, Matthew, George and Richard Plombe. My tenement in St. Saviour's Norwich, given to me by my late husband Thomas Plumbe (who received it by the will of his late father Matthew Plombe). To the daughter of my brother Robert Sherwin, the latter and John Francis of Norwich to be supervisors. My sons George and Richard Plombe to be executors." Proved 20 Mar. 1623/4. (Archdeaconry of Norwich, vol. Hyll, fol. 289.)

Of the three wills of Norfolk County Busbys, as abstracted, Mr. Bartlett has no doubt as to their being the wills of the grandfather, father and stepmother of the emigrant Nicholas Busby. He states, "Furthermore, this Busby family seems the only one in Norfolk be-

tween 1550 and 1650."

The children of Nicholas Busby of Claxton, determined by his will, were:

John, born, probably, about 1580; called eldest son, 1615



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, NORWICH NORFOLK

Nicholas, born, probably, about 1582; his age, "50 yeares," as it reads at the time of his examination for New England, 1637, is apparently short by five years, at least. Were it correct, his birth would have been in 1587 and he would have been but 18 years of age when he was married at St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, 24 June 1605. In the same examination, the age of his wife Bridget reads, "53 yeares." It is reasonable to suppose that Nicholas was older rather than younger than his wife. Mr. Bartlett considers it probable that the age was 55 rather than 50, and that the error arose because of faint or poor handwriting in transcribing. (Of whom further.)

NICHOLAS BUSBY, THE EMIGRANT.

Nicholas (1) Busby, grandson of John and son of Nicholas Busby, was born about 1582, probably in the county of Norfolk, England. His marriage, 24 June 1605, to Bridget Cocke, the daughter of Christopher and Margaret (Allen) Cocke, was in the parish of St. Mary Coslany, of the city of Norwich and county of Norfolk. In this same parish is recorded the marriage of Christopher Cocke and Margaret Allen, 25 Jan. 1579/80. Here, also, and, later at St. Peter Permountergate, another parish of Norwich,* are the baptisms of ten and the burials of three of the twelve children of Nicholas Busby. The name is variously spelled Busby, Busbye, Busbie. Thomas Busby, his son, was married at All Saints, 1626, and lived in that parish until after the death of his wife and youngest daughter in 1634. Nicholas seems not to have lived in the parish of All Saints. In 1629 he was of St. Clement's, where his youngest son, Livewell, was buried, likewise his said son Thomas early in 1636.

Nicholas was apprenticed to William Ward, worsted-weaver, as early, probably, as 1597. He was admitted freeman of Norwich 5 Jan. 1620/2. As worsted-weaver, of Norwich, he gave an indenture to John Tillsley, 6 May 1617, which was enrolled 31 Dec. 1622, whereby Tillsley bound himself as apprentice to Busby to the trade of worsted-weaver, from 30 June 1617 for a term of nine years.

"The Subsidy for the City of Norwich, 21 Jas. I (1623) (153-583)

Nicholas Busby of St. Peter's Permontergate } lands 20s. 4s.

^{*}See illustrations, also Appendix.

The year that Busby changed his residence in Norwich from the parish of St. Mary Coslany to that of St. Peter Permountergate must have been about 1618 or 1619, as is evidenced by the baptism of his son Abraham in the former parish, 7 Sept. 1618, and of his daughter Sarah in the latter, 12 Dec. 1619. By 1629 he had removed to the parish of St. Clement's. Norwich Proceedings, 1630-1635, show Nicholas Busby, weaver, summoned, 8 Aug. 1631. He was assessed "id" a week on the poor rate for Pockthorpe, 12 Dec. 1631. His residence at this time is not mentioned. On the rate-book for Norwich, however, from Easter 1633 to Easter 1634, he is listed as of St. Clement's, and assessed "iid." It is therefore probable that his residence from 1629, at least, to date of emigration, 1637, was St. Clement's, although he may have returned some time after 1634 to St. Mary Coslany, where Bridget's father had held a tenement. Nicholas Busbye of Norwich, worsted-weaver, and "Briget" his wife, daughter and next heir of Christopher Cock, late of same city, deceased, conveyed to William Watts of said city, worsted-weaver, a tenement in St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, abutting east on the church-yard. This deed, dated and enrolled, 27 March 1637, is especially interesting, executed, as it was, less than a fortnight before Busby and his family were examined, 8 April 1637, as "desirous to goe to boston in New England to inhabit."

Of the twelve children of Nicholas Busby, an account of each of whom is embodied in this sketch, Richard, the first John, Amie [Amy], and Livewell died under three years of age; Thomas, the year before Busby left England; while Catherine had evidently married William Savory before 1637. The marriage recorded on the parish register of St. George's Colgate, 20 Oct. 1636, of "William Safferye & Elizabeth Busby" suggests a possibility of error in the given name of the bride. In the absence of record of an Elizabeth Busby of suitable period to have married William Safferye it is the more probable that the name Elizabeth is an error for Catherine. Of the remaining six children of Nicholas Busby, all came to New England with their father and mother with the exception of Susan, who had been baptized in December 1613. It is probable that she had died before 1637, since nothing further is known of her. Her father did not mention her in his will, 25 July 1657, nor did her

name appear in the settlement of her mother's estate, 1661.

On record we find, "Aprill 8th, 1637. The examinaction of Nicho: Busbie of Norwich in Norss, weauer, aged 50 yeares and Bridgett his wife aged 53 yeares with 4 children, Nicho: John: Abraham: and Sarath; are desirous to goe to boston in New England to inhabit."

The name of Nicholas Busby appears on the "List of persons who went to New England with William Andrews of Ipswich, master of the John and Dorothy of Ipswich, and with William Andrews, his son, master of the Rose of Yarmouth." Which of the vessels he came in is uncertain, but in the same company was his daughter Anne and her husband William Nickerson with their family of four

children, all of whom arrived in Boston, 20 June 1637.

It has been suggested that the reason for leaving England by the company in 1637 was because of the persecutions of Matthew Wren. then Bishop of Norfolk, who was making life unendurable for the non-conformists. During his term of two years and four months "3,000 of his Majesty's subjects, many of whom used trades, spinning, weaving, knitting, making cloth, stuff, stockings and other manufactures of wool, some of them setting a hundred poor people at work," transported themselves into Holland, and "other parts beyond the seas" due to his "superstition and tyranny." Michael Metcalf, himself a weaver and one of the company, writes, "I was persecuted in the land of my fathers' sepulchres for not bowing at the name of Jesus and observing other ceremonies in religion, forced upon me at the instance of Bishop Wren of Norwich and his Chancellor Dr. Corbet, whose violent measures troubled me in the Bishop's Court and returned me into the High Commissioner's Court." "My enemies conspired against me to take away my life and, sometimes, to avoid their hands, my wife did hide me in the roof of the house, covering me over with straw."

Although Nicholas Busby was the earliest of the name in New England, by 16 February 1623/4 an Edward Busbee was living in Virginia, and a Thomas Busby, aged 19, is listed among those to

be transported to Virginia 28 May 1635 in the Speedwell.

Nicholas Busby was admitted an inhabitant of Newbury, October 1637. His residence there must have been short, however. By March 1638 he was admitted a freeman and 9 April, the same year, in a division of land at the "Town Plot," Watertown, six acres fell to Nicholas Busby. Twice, "6.m.10, 1639" (6 Dec. 1639) and "28,m.9 1643" (28 Nov. 1643), he was with other freemen "chosen for this yeare to order all the Civill affaires of ye Towne." This office was evidently the same as that of selectman at the present time. In an allotment of lands in Watertown, "1642, 3m. 10d." (1642, May 10), Nicholas received 86 acres in the 3rd Division, Lot No. 72. As thirteen acres was allowed for each head of persons or estates, one may use his imagination to determine why eighty-six acres was the portion of Nicholas.

That Nicholas Busby continued his occupation of a weaver is evident from the following Court record, "34 shs is granted Nicho: Busby for making cloth before the order for allowance was revoked, & the warrant was lost." (17 Oct. 1643). The books which he possessed, as shown by the settlement of his estate, indicate that he was a man of more than average education. It is possible that he acted as a physician at times, judging from his numerous books on "phisick."

His removal to Boston occurred about 1646. On the Boston records we find, "22 (6) 1646" (22 Aug. 1646) "Edmund Jacklin of Boston granted unto Nicholas Busbie, worsted weaver, his dwelling house and garden, be it half Acre more or lesse, bounded with Edmund Dennis north: Wm Townsend south: the high streete east; and Edmund Jacklin west. Acknowledged before the Governor, John Winthrop, esqr.;" and the following year "13, 1 mo. 1647" (13 March 1647) he was made constable of Boston.

Anthony Eames, Mr Busby and Robert Martin had been appointed "to runne the line betwixt this pattent & Plimouth pattent." Allusion to this is made on the Court records, 28 May 1659, with the

statement that this duty had been fulfilled.

Nicholas Busby died, Boston, 28 Aug. 1657 (28th-6th month 1657). His will, dated 25 July 1657, is to be found, with inventory, at the office of Suffolk Registry of Probate, Boston. It is yet readable, although in places considerably worn, as is the case with some of the letters of the signature of Nicholas Busby. It is substantially as follows:-

"In the name of God amen I Nicholas Busby being sicke in body but in pfect memory, Blessed be ye Lord therefor doe make this my Last Testament as hereafter followeth first of all I will and bequeath my soule into the mercyfull hands of Almightie God trusting & unfainedly beleeving to be saved by ye active & passive obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ & my Body to the earth to be buryed therein at the charge of my Executrix heereafter named. I doe appointe my three sonns that are here in New England, that is to say, my Sonne Abraham Busby, my Sonne William Nickerson & my Sonne John Grout to gather vp all my debts mentioned in my debt bookes & to make there of a true accout, & to deliuer it as they shall receive it vnto my Executrix heereafter named. Impris I doe make my Loving wife my whole Executrix of all my Estate, & to possesse this my dwelling house wherein I liue, dureing her life, and all my household Stuffe plate & money; & for my farme if she will consent thereto, that it be sold & she to receive the price thereof & to add to it my

stocke & to discharge the seurall Legacies. . . . the Remainder to be for her maintenance dureing her life. Vnto John Busby, my Eldest Sonne, seaventy pounds more then that I sent him the Last yeare, weh was thirtie pounds, & this Seaventy pounds to be payd in such goods as are gathered in by the Brethren above said, within Seaven monthes after my decease. . . . Vnto Abraham Busby, my Sonne, sixtie pounds. . . . And after his Mothers decease, this my now dwelling house, with the garden & fruite trees scittuated & being in Boston*. . . . Vnto Anne Nickerson, my Eldest daughter, the sume of fiftie pounds; vnto my daughter, Katherine Savory the some of fortie pounds, (more then that I sent her the Last yeare). . . . Vnto Sarah Grout, my youngest daughter, the some of Sixtie & five pounds; vnto my grand Child Joseph Busby, Sonne of my Sonne Nicholas Busby, deceased, the sume of Twenty pounds; vnto Sarah Grout, my grand child, tenn pounds; vnto my two Sonns John Busby & Abraham Busby, my printed bookes, in manner following; to John Busby, all my Phisicke bookes, as Glendall practice, Barrowes method, Dutch Phisicke & garden of health, Mr. Coggans treatis, and the Dialogue of Phisicke Surgery, with Plinnys Naturall Hystory. Vnto Abraham Busby, my bookes of Divinitie, vizt. Mr. Perkins, Mr Willet sinops and Comentary on the Romains, & Mr Hieroms two bookes; as for the rest of my bookes of divinitie, or Hystory, my desire is that they may Loveingly & Brotherly devide them betweene except the three Bibles; first, the thicke Bible, I give vnto Anne Nickerson. The Best Bible, to Sarah Grout, and the bible in my Hamper, to Katherin Savory. As for my Apparell, I give vnto John Busby, my Sonne, my blacke Stuffe Cloake, & the remainder of my apparell I Leave to my wife to dispose of. As for my weaving tooles, as the two Loomes, the one, I give to John Busby in case he come over to New England, or else to William Nickerson the same. And the other Loome & warpins & bobings & wheels & shettells & other Implemts thereto belonging I give vnto my Sonne Abraham Busby; And as for my household stuffe, plate & money, I leave vnto my deare wife. I haue heereunto set my hand & seale, this five and Twentieth day of July, One thousand Sixe hundred fifty and Seauen. " The will was presented, 10 Sept. 1657 and recorded 14 Oct. 1657.

The inventory of the estate of Nicholas Busby seems to indicate that besides his occupation of weaver he kept a general store for the sale, not only of cloth and its accessories like lace, buttons, tape,

^{*}On what is now Washington Street, "one third the distance from West to School streets."

ribbons, etc., but of grocery and hardware articles. Because it furnishes a good idea of material and articles in use at an early period of our New England town life the inventory is copied herewith in full:—

"An Inventory of the Wares Goods Houshold stuffe Plate Money Lands and debts dew unto and in the possessio of Nicholas Busby of Boston Lately deceased priced and taken by Nathaniell Woodward and Robert Saunders the first day of September in the yeare of our Lord 1657

Impris due one Specialties and on the shop bookes of 247 . . 07 . . 07 1/2 tt. in the shop as followeth paper and bookes ..16.. tt. a parsell of stockings 3..10.. tt. 30 paire of bodies 3..11..06 tt. 44 yeards of Canvas at 20d. 2..14.. tt. 14 yeards 3/4 of Canvas at 22d. 1..07 tt. 35 yeards of Cotton 3..06..04 tt. 4 yeards of Cambricke at 6s. I ..04.. tt. a Remnant of Callico & a paire of smale breeches ...06 . . tt. 6 yrds of Callico at 4s. I..04 tt. 7 yrds 3/4 of Callico at 2s. ..15..06 tt. a Remnant of Lockrum ..02..09 tt. 4 yrds of tuffted Holld at 2s. 2d. 80..80.. tt. 14 yrds of Course Holld at 2s. 6d. 1..15.. tt. 10 yrds 3/4 of Course Cloth at 20d. ...18...10 tt. 11 yrds. of Course Cloth at 22d. ..19..08 tt. 26 yrds. of blew Linnen at 13d. 1..08..02 tt. 33 yrds of dowlas at 22d. 3..00..06 tt. 8 yrds 3/4 of Sarje at 3s. 1..06..03 tt. 1 yrd ¼ of Sarj at 4s & a Rem of China stuffe 4s ..09.. tt. 6 yrds of Callico at 20d. ..IO., tt. 7 yrds of Sattanisco at 4s. 1..08 tt. 3 yrds 34 of Searge at 6s. 1..02..06 tt. 12 yrd of Padua Searge at 3s 8d p yrd 2..04..00 tt. 5 yrds 3/4 of Mowhaire at 4s 1..03..∞ tt. 5 yrds of Tamy at 2s 2d. ..10..10 tt. 11 yrds 34 of Chemy at 3s 1..15..03 tt. 6 yrds of Caskeliana at 3s. ..18..∞ tt. 11 yrds of Mowhare at 3s. 1..13.. tt. 22 yrds of Lace 1..03..10 tt. I doz. of Lace at 4s 6d & aneckcloth 3s 4d. ..07..10

| tt. 19 yrds of Lace 7s 1d & 11 yrds of Lace at 2d. | 80 |
|---|-------|
| tt. in Cotton tape and box combes | 0702 |
| tt. in Ivory Combes & horne Combes | 0806 |
| tt. 3 pieces of filleting | 15 |
| tt. 3 doz of silke Laces | ∞6 |
| tt. 3 doz of silke Laces | 0909 |
| tt. 3 doz of Laces 11s 13d and in needles 10s. | 10103 |
| tt. 4 ounces of Sowing Silke | 0904 |
| tt. 13 oz of Silke at | 11004 |
| tt. I groce of threed buttons and a psell of threed | 1804 |
| tt. a psell of threed 9s 8d and 2 lb of threed 13s | 10208 |
| tt. 2 lb 1/2 of knitting pines and two boxes | 0505 |
| tt. 3 grose of silver buttons at 8s | 104 |
| tt. 4 doze of Cotton tape, 12s & in Inckell 2s | 14 |
| tt. in Cotton tape and bobing | 08 |
| tt. 3 doz of tobacco tongues at 6s | 18 |
| tt. 2 doz 1/2 of Ribban 10s & 6 m of pines 5s | 15 |
| tt. 4 m 1/2 of pines 3s4d and hookes & Eyes 2s | 0504 |
| tt. in filleting and tape 6s and tobacco pipes 4s | 10 |
| tt. 6 doz 1/2 of knives at 4s 6d | 10903 |
| tt. 16 doz of Ribban at 18 p doz | 104 |
| tt. I groce of Laces and points 4s 6d & a brush 22d | 0604 |
| tt. 3 doz of Childrens stockings at 9s | 107 |
| tt. I doz of stockings | 12 |
| tt. I doz 1/2 of stockings at 13s | 1906 |
| tt. I doz 1/2 of stockings at 15s | 10206 |
| tt. 10 doz of Leather points at 5s | 05 |
| tt. 6 doz of knives at 4s 6d | 107 |
| tt. 3 doz of Cissers at 3s | 09 |
| tt. 2 gs of Cotton Ribban 20s and 2 lb of threed | 11108 |
| tt. 7 pieces of Manchester tape at 2s 4d | 16 04 |
| tt. 2 ps more 5s and tobacco boxes 4s | 09 |
| tt. 5 ps of white tape | 13 |
| tt. in Inckell of sevrall Cullors | 205 |
| tt. in White threed 12s and in hookes and eyes 5s | 17 |
| tt. in threed Laces | 0402 |
| tt. 17 lb of threed at 2s 9d | 20603 |
| tt. 34 lb of pepper at 18d | 21 |
| tt. 14 lb of Endigo | 20506 |
| tt. 20 lb of Anneseeds | I., |
| tt. 4 lb 2 oz of hose yearne 14s & Ribbens and a | |
| brush | 10203 |

| tt. 12 lb of Copperas 6s a nest of boxes 8s | 14 |
|---|-------|
| tt. Lead wts at 21s brasse wts at 18d | 10206 |
| tt. 6 paire of scales and beames | I |
| tt. 2 lb of wormeseede | 16 |
| tt. a Counter and grating for the Window | 12 |
| tt. in shooe nayles | II |
| tt. 20 yrds of trading cloth at 6s 8d | 61404 |
| tt. 50 yrds of wosteed stuffe at 4s 6d p yrd | 1105 |
| tt. 20 yrds of Cotton and woole at 3s | 3 |
| tt. 2 yrds of wosteed stuffe at 4s | 008 |
| tt. 9 ps of Cotton Cloth at 31 p ps | 27 |
| tt. 2 ps of Cotton Cloth at 21 10s | 5 |
| tt. 30 yrds of Read Cotton at 2s 9d | 40206 |
| tt. 4 yrds of Kersy at 4s 2d | 1608 |
| tt. 4 yrds of Kersy at 3s 2d | 1208 |
| tt. 3 yrds of shagg Cotton | 09∞ |
| tt. 3 yrds 1/4 of broad Cloth at 16s 6d | 21307 |
| tt. 20 yrds of Read shagg at 48 4d | 40608 |
| tt. 9 yrds 1/4 of Lin coller ks at 3s | 10709 |
| tt. 5 yrds of ks at 5s | 105 |
| tt. 7 yrds 3/4 of yellow Cotton at 2s 6d | 1904 |
| tt. 12 yrds of wt trading cloth at 4s | 208 |
| tt. 3 doz of hookes & clappes for breeches at 4s 6d | 1306 |
| tt. 150 lb of Cotton woole at 12d 1/2 | 71603 |
| tt. 250 lb of Sugar at | 50406 |
| tt. 2 doz & 5 collrs 12s 1d & 2 doz of belly pieces at 3s | 1804 |
| tt. A Barrell of starch 200 lb | 3 |
| tt. Loome Roome 1 Barrell of powder | 610 |
| tt. a barrell of Nayles 15m at 6s | 410 |
| tt. 50 lb of Soape at 9d | 11706 |
| tt. 2 Loomes with the appurtenances to them | 4 |
| tt. 2 ps of Cloth in the Loomes | 6 |
| tt. 2 hamm ^{rs} a hand saw and a wimble | 0306 |
| tt. 2 doz ½ p Cissers at 10s and 2 doz & 5 p at 6s | 16 |
| tt. a bush & ½ bush & ½ pecke Corne | 04 |
| tt. a warming pan & frying pans a spitt & dripping | |
| pan | 1406 |
| tt. in Earthen ware | 0606 |
| tt. a Iron pott | 80 |
| tt. in brasse potts and Kettles & skillets | 210 |
| tt. Trivet tongues Andirons pot-hange spit guid- | ** |
| irons &c | I |

| tt. 2 Iron potts | · |
|--|-------|
| tt. a birding piece | 10 |
| tt. a brasse chaffer a Lampe & two Candlestickes | 14 |
| tt. 40 lb of pewter in sevrall pots | 3 |
| tt. a table & forme | 12 |
| tt. a Round table little table & stooles | 10 |
| tt. a Chest & a little chaire | 0506 |
| tt. in printed bookes being some divinities phisicke | |
| &c | 20 |
| tt. a pestell & mortar | 06 |
| tt. a steele Mill 2 kettles wedges & old tubbs a | |
| trevet & other Implemts in the Leantoo | 4II |
| tt. a Holbard and a paire of Andirons | IO |
| In the Parlor 13 ps of Cotton Cloth Cont 20 yrds | |
| p ps at 3s p y ^d | 39•• |
| tt. 3 yrds 34 of Cotton at 3s | 1103 |
| tt. 3 doz and one paire of Cards at 20s | 30108 |
| tt. a table and bedsteed stooles and formes | 210 |
| tt. 2 Trunckes 20s 2 Chests 20s | 2 |
| tt. a deske at 3s 4d & 3 boxes and Cubbard 14s | 1704 |
| tt. 5 packetts of pinnes | 116 |
| tt. A paire of Andirons topt with brasse wth tongues | |
| and pan | Ι |
| tt. 8 lb of Cinamon at 6s | 208 |
| tt. needle wrought quishons | 1∞ |
| tt. 2 doz of pinnes | I04 |
| tt. 6 Quishons at | III |
| tt. a Carpitt & 3 Quishons | 10608 |
| tt. the deceased wearing apparell | 10 |
| tt. I lb of Mace 12s I lb of Anneseeds Is | 13 |
| tt. 2 lb of Cloves | I04 |
| tt. 6 lb of Nutmegs | 208 |
| tt. 2 beds and Covering | 1210 |
| tt. 3 blanketts and a Looking glasse at 8s | 112 |
| tt. a Barrell of goods | 510 |
| In ye Chamber bedding & old Lumber | 512 |
| tt. 3 Sawes 5s and a chest and spit 8s | 13 |
| tt. 2 bedds in the Lodgeing Chamber with ye Cov- | • |
| erings & bedsteed | 10 |
| tt. a hundred of Ginger | 210 |
| tt. 80 lb of Allum 11:6:8d. in silvester 3 | 40608 |
| tt. a Remnant of Lawne & a glasse of 8s | 103 |

| tt. 300 lb of Cotton yarne at 2s 6d | 3710 |
|--|-------------|
| tt. a Chest & aremlett of Copps | 03 |
| tt. 44 bushs of peas at 3s 6d | 714 |
| tt. 3 bushs of wheat 12s & a psell of sugar 21 | 212 |
| tt. 15∞ of Bisket Bread at 18s p | 1310 |
| tt. his house and Land in Boston | 100 |
| tt. his house and Land in Watertowne | 120 |
| tt. Money 221 12s & in peage 111 19s | 3411 |
| tt. in plate | 110709 |
| tt. 2 doz of Napkins, the one diap the other damsake | 3 |
| tt. 3 Damaske table clothes and 2 towells of 3s | 303 |
| tt. 2 table Clothes 11 10s & 2 Cubert Clothes | 115 |
| tt. 6 paire of sheets | 1110 |
| tt. 10 sheepe | IO |
| | |
| Sume tottall | 97215081/2 |
| More heereunto to be added | ∞016∞ |

Nathaniell Woodward Robert Saunders

10th September 1657 Abraham Busby deposed before the Magistrates that this is a true Inventory of the Estate of his Late father Nicholas Busby to the best of his knowledge, that when he knowes more, he will discover it."

Bridget Busby, widow of Nicholas Busby, conveyed her property to her children by deed of 14 May 1659. The original of the deed is to be found among the files of the Superior Court of Judicature No. 392, and a copy is on record among Suffolk Deeds, v. 3,

p. 383:—

"To all christian people to whom this present writing shall Come Bridgett Busby of Boston in the County of Suffolke in New England widdow Sendeth Greeting in our Lord God euerlasting Know yee that the said Didgett Busby being of Good and perfect memory and wthout fraud or deceipt for & in Consideration of the naturall affection that I beare vnto my Sonns & daughters and also for other good Causes and Considerations me at present especially mooving Haue Giuen & Graunted and by these presents Doe Giue Graunt and Confirme vnto my sonne John Busby the sume of twenty pounds sterling to be pajd vnto him in New England or to his Assignes by the value thereof out of my estate in Goods & debts (weh to that

end) I leave in the hands and custody of my sonne Abraham Busby Also I give and Graunt vnto my daughter Katherine Sauery the summe of tenn pounds sterling to be paid vnto hir or hir Assignes in New England by the value thereof out of my estate in Goods & debts went to that end I leave in the hands & Custody of my Sonne Abraham Busbey both of the above named Guifts to be pajd wthin thirty moneths after the date of these presents Also I Giue vnto my Daughter Anna Nickerson a truncke & the one half deale of all my smale linnen cloaths, and one paier of sheets and fower diaper napkins and two Couerd stooles and one Wrought Cushin and two platters the one to be bigg and the other lesse and two silver spoones and one pillow beere and one great Iron pott and one long table board weh is now in hir husbands Custody by way of loane Also I Giue vnto my daughter Sarah Grout the other half deale of all my smale Linnen cloathes and one Joinct chest, and one paire of sheetes and fower diaper napkins and two Couerd stooles and one wrought Cushen and two platters the one bigg and the other lesse and two siluer spoones and one pillow beere and one feather bed which is in the chamber. I give vnto the children of my daughter Anna Nickerson the some of Twenty & fower pounds to be divided amongst them and payd by the value thereof out of my Estate in Goods & Debts weh to that end I leave in the Custody of my Sonne Abraham Busby Also I giue vnto the children of my daughter Sarah Grout the Summe of Twenty pounds to be divided amongst them and paid by the Value thereof out of my estate in Goods & Debts weh to that end I leave in the Custody of my Sonne Abraham Busby to be paid vnto theire parents for the particular vse-& behooffe of each of them wthin sixe moneths after the decease of me the said Bridgett, And Also I the said bridgett by these preents doe Giue Graunt & Confirme vnto my Sonne Abraham Busby all and singular the Remainder of my goods estate debts and properties of what nature kind Condition quallity & quantity soeuer the same are be or may be and in what place or places soeuer the same be or shall or may be found to be as well in my owne Custody and possession as in the possession hands power & Custody of any other person or persons whatsoeuer and wheresoeuer. provided alwajes that the full & free liberty of vse and disbursement of this Remayning part of my estate Given & Graunted vnto my sajd sonne Abraham Busbey is reserved by me to my vse & for my maintenance during my naturall life, And a power also to give graunt & Confirme other guifts if I shall please so to doe and after that so much as may discharge the Costs of my funerall to be performed in a decent manner Also I

Giue & Graunt vnto my two sonnes in law willjam Nickerson and John Groutt to each of them a peece of Gold of twenty shillings to be deliuered & pajd vnto them by my sajd Sonne Abraham on the day of my funerall Provided by me also that if any of my said Sonnes or daughters Doe dye before me that then the guifts so Giuen as is aboue expressed shall be Vnto the children of him her or them so dying. And I the said Bridget Busbey have putt my said Sonnes and daughters in full & peaceable possession of all and every the premised Graunts and Guifts warranting it to be paid vnto them at the times & places sett) by delivering vp vnto the hands of my loving freind Mr Robert Saunderson for theire perticular vse a peice of money Called sixe penc fixed in the Seale hereof In witness whereof I have herevnto put my hand & seale the fowerteenth day of may in the yeare of our Lord one thousand sixe hundred fiffty and nine" Bridget Busby signed the deed by her mark and the witnesses were Robert Saunderson, John Hull and "willjam Pearse." The deed was not recorded until 5 July 1660 at which time administration of estate of Bridget Busby, as well and ministration of said deed, was granted to Abraham Busby.

The inventory of the estate of Bridget Busby was taken 3 July 1660. It contained 288 items, 25 more than the inventory of Nicholas Busby, but amounted to £539: 13⁵; 5^d. Some of the interesting items

are as follows:

| "one wrought Toster at 2! 4 | 020400 |
|---|---------|
| | 6 |
| a silver Chaine & a smale gold Chaine | ∞07∞ |
| I gosips Cupp at 3 ^a . | 03 |
| Some odd trifles over ye doore | 000400 |
| I Tosting Iron a beife forke & a fritter-turner at | 001000 |
| I Caske of Almonds wt 3/4 0 at 71 per o is | 050500 |
| I great Bible at 8s a Can & bottle 1s a hatchet 6d | ∞0906 |
| I bare skine 2° 3 tubbs 3° more 4 barrells 4 wedges IIs | ∞16∞ |
| P Cash in house | 0041000 |
| P debts standing in Sundry mens hands | 2420500 |
| more not entered in buttons | ∞5oio6" |

A deed of release or discharge was given by William Nickerson to Abraham Busby, administrator, 27 Nov. 1661. It reads, "Witnesseth these preents That I william Nickerson of Boston in New England weaver Atturney vnto John Busby william and Katherine Savory of Norwich in England as also Atturney to John ffardell

Guardian of Joseph Busby of London Dated the twelfth of Aprill Sixteene hundred Sixty and one haue Received of Abraham Busby Administor to ye estate of the late Bridget Busby executrix to the late Nicholas Busby last will the some of ninty pounds by the value thereof (viz) forty fiue pounds by Assignement of a debt due from myselfe on the booke of the deceased and Recorded by Judgment and execution with thirtie eight pounds eleaven shillings in Cotton yarne with the value of sixe pounds nine shillings in Bedding and is in full paymt and satisfaction of twenty pounds given to the aboue named John Busby By Bridget his mother and in full of fifty Pounds Given to Katherine and william Savorie as a legasy from Nicholas and Bridget Busby theire late father and mother deceased and alsoe the some of twenty Pounds Given to Joseph Busby by Nicholas Busby his Grand father—I say reced the severall somes in the names and for the vses of the persons about mentioned the whole being ninety pounds. And doe therefore in their names and by theire order and power aboue expressed fully and absolutely acquitt remise Release and foreuer Discharge the said Abraham Busby his heires and assignes of and from all suits action Claimes and demands in referrence to the said somes aboue expressed in wittnes whereof I haue herevnto sett my hand & seale this 27th of November 1661" (Signed) william Nickerson & a seale.

The children of Nicholas and Bridget (Cocke) Busby were twelve

in number, viz.:-

i. Richard (2), born, about 1605-6, probably in Norwich; burial, St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, Eng., 25 June 1608

ii. Thomas (2), born, about 1606-7, probably in Norwich; apprenticed to his father, indenture dated 24 June 1623, for term of 7 years, enrolled 3 Mch. 1630/1 (Norwich Enrolled Indentures, vol. E, p. 43); married Anne Read, All Saints, Norwich, 10 Sept. 1626, children bapt., All Saints,—Elizabeth, 20 May 1627, bur. 10 Aug. 1628; Ellen, 31 May 1629; Elizabeth, 15 July 1634, bur. 16 Oct. 1634; Anne, wife of Thos. Busby, bur. All Saints, 6 Oct. 1634; he bur. St. Clement's, Norwich, 28 Jan. 1635/6

iii. Anne (2), bapt., St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, 2 Feb. 1607/8; married William Nickerson "The examination of William Nickarson of Norwich in Norfolk, weaver, aged 33, and Anne, his wife, aged 28, with

four children, Nicho, Robartt, Elizabeth, Anne, are desirous to go to Boston in New England, there to

inhabit, April 8, 1637." (Of whom further)

iv. Nicholas (2), bapt., St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, Eng., 9
Sept. 1610; came with parents to New England, 1637;
married Martha (Cheney) Sadler, subsequent to 23
April 1650, on which date Anthony Sadler, 1st husband of Martha (Cheney) Sadler, was drowned; son
Joseph was of London Eng., by 1661, with guardian John Fardell; Nicholas died before 25 July 1657, when his father made his will.

v. John (2), bapt., St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, Eng., 12 Jan. 1611/2; burial, St. Mary Coslany, 23 Sept. 1614

vi. Susan (2), bapt., St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, Eng., 5 Dec. 1613; probably died young, before 1637; neither came to New England with parents, nor mentioned, 1657, in father's will

vii. Catherine (2), bapt., St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, Eng., 6
Aug. 1615; married William Savory; of Norwich,

1657, when father made will

John (2), bapt., St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, Eng., 9 Feb. viii. 1616/17; registered as coming to New England with parents, 1637; had returned to England by 1657 when father, in his will, mentioned sending money to him "Last yeare" and gave him one of his weaving looms "in case he come over to New England, or else to William Nickerson the same." Married, probably Elizabeth Hurton (?) (Deed enrolled 23 Sept. 1646, from Elizabeth Draper, widow, of Norwich, et al, to Elizabeth Hurton, of Norwich, widow, and John Busby, of same, worsted weaver, and wife Elizabeth, of a tenement in All Saints, abutting on the swinemarket on the west, to be held by said Elizabeth Hurton and John Busby and Elizabeth his wife, to the use of Busby and his wife, they paying to said Elizabeth Hurton 40° a year for life. (Norwich Enrolled Deeds, Roll 41); living, Norwich, 1661

X. Abraham (2), bapt., St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, Eng., 7
Sept. 1618; apprenticed to Edmond Shipdham, of
Norwich, baker, for term of 7 years, per indenture
dated 29 Sept. 1634, enrolled 18 Nov. 1634 (Norwich
Enrolled Indentures, Vol. E., p. 73d), came with

parents to New England, 1637; member of Ancient & Honorable Artillery Co., 1647; freeman, 1650; married Abigail (Compton) Brisco, Boston, 25 Sept., 1659 (probably second wife); she was the daughter of John and Susanna () Compton, and widow of Joseph Brisco, of Boston, who was drowned, I Jan. 1657/8; styled "linen-weaver" late as 1661; in deed,

2 July 1683; "baker;" died, 20 March 1687

Sarah(2), bapt. St. Peter Permountergate, Norwich, Eng. 12 Dec. 1619; came to New England with parents, 1637; married, as his second wife, Capt. John Grout, of Sudbury, M'ass., before 11 Dec. 1643 and had Sarah, b., Watertown, 11 Dec. 1643; Hannah, b. Sudbury, 31 May 1646; Joseph, b. Sudbury, 24 July 1649; Abigail, b. Sudbury, 14 Oct. 1655; Jonathan, b. Sudbury, 1 Aug. 1658; Mary, b. Sudbury, 1 Aug. 1661; Susannah, b. Sudbury, 22 Sept. 1664; and Elizabeth, who married (1st) Samuel Allen, Sudbury, 16 Dec. 1683, and (2d) John Livermore of Watertown, before 24 Jan. 1697 at which time Capt. John Grout made his will. Sarah (Busby) Grout died, Sudbury, 25 Apr. 1699

Amie(2), bapt., St. Peter Permountergate, Norwich, Eng., 22 April 1622; burial, same parish, 1 Sept. 1625

Livewell(2), bapt., St. Peter Permountergate, Norwich, Eng., 31 Jan. 1627/8; burial, St. Clement's, Norwich, Eng., 28 Jan. 1635/6.

Anne (2) Busby, the eldest daughter of Nicholas and Bridget (Cocke) Busby, was baptized, St. Mary Coslany, Norwich, England, 2 Feb. 1607/8, and married to William Nickerson in England, about 1627. The couple with their four children Nicholas, Robert, Elizabeth and Anne, came to New England at the same time that Nicholas Busby did, in 1637. They lived but a short time in Watertown, removing to Yarmouth, Mass., as early as 1640. Early in March, 1657, the Nickerson family moved to Boston, evidently for the purpose of caring for Anne's parents in their old age. In the case of Busby v. Nickerson on the files of the Supr. Court of Judicature, No. 392, William Nickerson testifies, 26 Feb. 1660/1,—

"My wife cam to boston the furst of March 1657 and my wife did sarves to hur father and mother tell the later end of August following, and then hur father departed this life. And since hur fathers death my wife have don sarves to hur mother dayly and waching with them in the night, as ther necessitie called for untell hur mother departed this life: which was in July last 1660, all which time my wife did sarves to hur father and mother, and the tim being somed up it contain three yeares and four monthes or thear aboute. And for as much as my wife was dieted at my tabell in that time she did them sarves. . . . And the account being somed up Com to fortie three pound for three years and four month sarves therfor the debte vpon account is satisfied to his mothers consent."

William and Anne (Busby) Nickerson sold the house which they had bought in Roxbury, in November, 1661, and appeared again in Yarmouth as residents by January 1661/2. William Nickerson purchased of the Indians the tract of land known then as Monomoy, now

Chatham, and thus became the founder of that town.

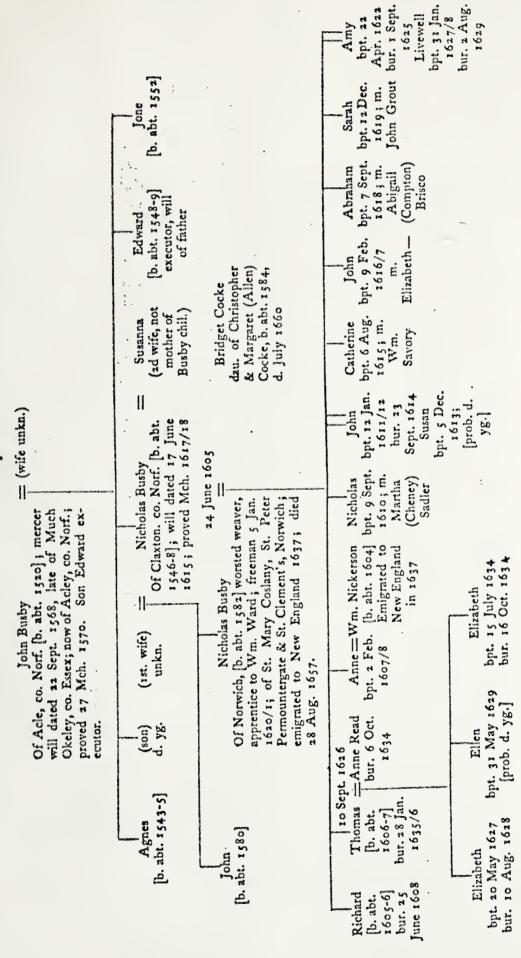
William Emery Nickerson, of Boston, Mass., traces his Busby line of ancestry through Anne (Busby) Nickerson, wife of William Nickerson, the emigrant:—

NICHOLAS BUSBY (1) who married Bridget Cocke
Anne Busby (2) who married William Nickerson
WILLIAM NICKERSON (3) who married Mercy Williams
Thomas Nickerson (4) who married Mary Bangs
Jonathan Nickerson (5) who married, 2d, Sarah Collins
Seth Nickerson (6) who married Martha Atwood
Jonathan Nickerson (7) who married Bethiah Young
Jonathan Nickerson (8) who married Sarah Miller
Amos Nickerson (9) who married Mary Abby Emery
WILLIAM EMERY Nickerson (10) who married Nellie Rosalie
Partridge.

APPENDIX

The English information in this sketch is the result of the excellent research work done in England, 1920–22, by J. Gardner Bartlett, genealogist, for Mr. Nickerson. Besides the three Busby wills at Norwich, he furnishes:—

Busby



BUSBYE WILLS OF ESSEX TO 1590

"Will of Ralph Busby, vicar of Badeu Magna [Great Baddow, co. Essex], Diocese of London, dated 20 Aug. 1492. To be buried in chancel there. Brother Edmund. Sir. John Bradwer. Ralph Haynes. John Smyth, Thomasine Stonar. Executor, Ralph Haynes. Witnesses, William Clerke, Chaplain, William Carpenter, et als. Proved by Ralph Haynes 15 Oct. 1492. (P. C. C., 14 Doggett.)"

A Note to the above by Mr. Bartlett reads,—"There are no Busby wills down to 1590 in the local Essex Courts, viz., Commissary of London for Essex and Herts, Archdeaconry of Middlesex for Essex and Herts, Archdeaconry of Colchester, and Arch-

deaconry of Essex."

The marriage of Richard Cocke or Cooke and Margaret Darweke at St. Mary Coslany, 12 Nov. 1558, suggests possible kinship to Christopher, father of Bridget Busby, married 21 years later.

The following, from Chancery Proceedings Series II, 40-24, is undated, but must have been about 1561. It apparently was not Christopher, father of Bridget, but one of an earlier generation:

"Your orator Christopher Cockes of Thirkeby [Thrigby, co. Norf.], complains that whereas one Anthony Whyte, clerk, was seized in his demesne as of fee as in right of his church of Thirckebye of and in the parsonage of same and the glebe lands; and said Anthony White being so seized, on 24 Oct. 2 Eliz. [1560] did for £5 paid by your orator demise the parsonage &c. to him for 3 years paying yearly £9 to white, whereupon your orator entered into the premises & began to till the ground. But White hath resigned the premises into the hands of the ordenarye of the diocese, whereupon your orator was expulsed from the premises. Answer of Anthony Whyte. Says he was not yet parson of Trickby, but upon earnest request and £5 from Cockes, he stated that if Chas. Clere, esq., the patron, gave him the parsonage, he would lease the premises to Cockes for 3 years. The parsonage was in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich by lapse, and he gave it to [blank]."



CHURCH ST. PETER, PARMENTERGATE

ST. MARY COSLANY, NORWICH

This parish, as will be seen by the plan of Norwich, herewith, is located in the northern part of that city. The tower which is round, at the west end of the church, is believed to be the oldest portion of the edifice, dating back possibly to 1298. The rest of the church dates, probably, to 1477. It is described as a "fine perpendicular church, cruciform, with tall round tower at the west end, built of flint in the usual manner. The chancel has large arches recessed in side walls with the windows under them." There are six stalls remaining in chancel. The font, octagonal, has painted shields of arms in the upper panels. The belfry contains six bells besides a little bell above, some of which are ancient. "The Nave is recorded to have been built in 1477 and the whole church is nearly of the same date." The church was flooded several years ago, badly injuring the registers, making some of the old records difficult to decipher. (See frontispiece.)

ST. PETER PERMOUNTERGATE, NORWICH

(Written also Permontergate)

This parish is located southeast of the Castle. There are two theories as to the origin of the name. The one is that there was a gate placed near the churchyard, at the foot of the castle-mount. The other theory is supported by the way in which the name invariably appeared upon the earliest documents, "St. Peter de Parmentergate." "Parmenter was the occupation meaning tailor or skinner. Gate was the Danish word for a way or street. St. Peter de Parmentergate therefore meant 'the Church of St. Peter in the street of the tailors or skinners." It is known that rebuilding was done in 1486 but whether the present church dates to that period or somewhat later is uncertain. "It was originally a rectory, in the patronage of Roger Bigot, by whom it was given to the monastery of the cathedral church in Norwich, and at their request appropriated to the infirmary there, whose keeper received the profits, and paid a stipendiary chaplain for serving the cure; who had a dwelling in the church-yard, originally the rectory house." At the east end is a chapel dedicated to St. Mary. The tower at the west end has a clock and five bells. In the long windows are images of saints, etc. In the chancel are short pitchers bedded in mortar in a trough. These are supposed to have been intended to assist in the distribution of sound. (See view of church, herewith.)

ST. CLEMENT'S, NORWICH

(St. Clement the Martyr, -At Fybridge by Colgate)

This is one of the oldest churches in the parish of Norwich. It belonged originally to the manor of Tokethorp, which received its name from its owner Toke in the time of Edward the Confessor. It has a nave, chancel and north vestry. The tower is square and has a clock and three bells. In the churchyard, opposite the south porch, is an altar tomb to the parents of Archbishop Parker. Another tomb is known as Leper's tomb.

In this parish churchyard were buried the two sons of Nicholas Busby, Livewell, 2 Aug. 1629, and Thomas, 28 Jan. 1635/6. It is probable that St. Clement's was the latest residence in England of Nicholas Busby.

NOTES FROM TWO COURT BOOKS OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, 1666-1688

(Compiled by Walter Rye)

"31 Oct. 1668- John Busby appointed to teach the boys bound to be apprenticed out of the monies given by Sir Joseph Paine, Kt." (Page 123,—orig. page 93.)

That said John Busby was the son of Nicholas, the emigrant,

seems probable.

REFERENCES

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Norwich Apprentice Indentures, vol. D, p. 308; vol. E, pp. 43 & 73d.

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Parish Registers, St. Mary Coslany, St. Peter Permountergate, All Saints,

St. Clement's, St. George's Colgate.

History of Norwich, printed by John Crouse, Norwich, 1768, pp. 428, 606-7.

Murray's Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk & Cambridgeshire, p. 303 (plan of Norw.). A Topographical & Historical Account of the City and County of Norwich,

printed by John Stacy, 1819, pp. 61-2, 67, 176, 181.

St. Peter Permountergate, Norwich, Part I, by Rev. W. Huddson.

Hotten's Original Lists, p. 289.

Pope's Pioneers of Mass., p. 83.

Drake's Founders of New England, p. 45.

Farmer's First Settlers of New England, p. 50.

Phillimore's Norfolk Marriages, v. 3, p. 5.

Hawes's Genealogy of Nicholas Busby.

Bond's Watertown, pp. 149, 733, 997, 1018, 1026, 1028, 1065.

Savage's Gen. Dictionary, v. 1, p. 316.

Currier's History of Newbury, Mass., p. 49.

Coffin's History of Newbury, Mass., p. 24.

County Court Records (copy) p. 312.

Smith's History of Chatham, Prt. 1, pp. 56-7, 60, 61.

Mass. Bay Misc. Records, v. 1, pp. 219, 374; v. 2, p. 51; v. 4, Pt. 1, p. 381.

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Boston Rec. Com. Report, 1634-1660, Prt. 1, p. 92; 29th Report, p. 138;

v. 9. p. 61.

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Sup. Crt. of Judicature, #392.

Suffolk Co. Reg. of Deeds, v. 3, pp. 383, 429, 518a-519.

Suffolk Co. Probate, #165 or vol. 1, pp. 294-6; v. 3, p. 88, etc.; #243 or vol.

3, pp. 203-6.

N. E. Hist. & Gen. Register, v. 8, pp. 278-9; v. 10. p. 173; v. 66, p. 87.

History of the Ancient & Hon. Artillery Co. of Mass., v. 1, p. 162.











